

WHAT IS CLAIMED AS NEW AND DESIRED TO BE SECURED BY LETTERS
PATENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS:

1. An object-oriented system for collecting information regarding execution of a target application in an application unit, the system comprising:
 - 5 a monitoring device having a plurality of monitoring components;
 - a target application interface configured to receive a plurality of monitoring requests from the target application for processing by the monitoring device; and
 - 10 a system resource having at least one system resource component which is shared among the plurality of monitoring components using at least one abstract class.
2. The system according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one system resource component includes at least one of a system clock, persistent system information storage, electronic mail transfer code and file transfer code.
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 3. The system according to Claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of monitoring components accesses the system resource using a system resource interface.
 4. The system according to Claim 1, wherein the target application includes one of a software program being executed on a computer or workstation under control of a user, a software program driving a control panel of a business device, a software program driving a control panel of an appliance, software generating data regarding state changes within a device, and software generating data regarding state changes within an appliance.
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 5. The system according to Claim 1, wherein the information regarding execution of a target application includes at least one of a user identification, an application identification, a cumulative session number, a value of a starting time, a value of a duration and an indication of a sequence of events with a corresponding elapsed time for each one of the events.
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 6. The system according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one system resource component includes a persistent system registry used for storing at least one of an application

identification, a value indicating a cumulative usage, an indication of a local directory, a user identification, an indication of a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) server, an indication of at least one recipient of data to be transmitted, an indication of a value of from data for data to be transmitted, an indication of a File Transfer Protocol (FTP) server, an indication of 5 an FTP user, an indication of an FTP password, and an indication of an FTP target path.

7. The system according to Claim 1, wherein the monitoring device having a plurality of monitoring components includes an event logger and wherein the at least one system resource component includes a system clock, wherein the event logger accesses the system 10 clock at least for recording a time of starting a monitoring session.

8. The system according to Claim 1, wherein the monitoring device having a plurality of monitoring components includes a transmitting device configured to transmit, to a predetermined recipient, formatted data corresponding to the information regarding execution 15 of the target application.

9. The system according to Claim 8, wherein the monitoring device having a plurality of monitoring components includes a formatting device configured to process the information regarding execution of the target application into the formatted data to be transmitted by the 20 transmitting device.

10. The system according to Claim 9, wherein the formatting device includes a data format processor configured to format the information regarding execution of the target application according to a requested data format.

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11. The system according to Claim 8, wherein the transmitting device includes a protocol processor configured to transmit the formatted data through a requested communication protocol.

30 12. The system according to Claim 11, wherein the at least one system resource component includes electronic mail transfer code and file transfer code, and wherein the

protocol processor is configured to access at least one of the electronic mail transfer code and the file transfer code for transmitting the formatted data through the requested communication protocol.

5 13. An object-oriented computer implemented method for collecting information regarding execution of a target application in an application unit, the method comprising the steps of:

monitoring the target application, by a device having a plurality of monitoring components to obtain the information regarding execution of the target application,

10 wherein the plurality of monitoring components includes an event logger, and
wherein the step of monitoring includes the steps of accessing a shared system resource and executing a plurality of instructions included in the system resource; and
storing, in the event logger, a portion of the information obtained by the step of monitoring.

15 14. The method according to Claim 13, wherein the system resource includes at least one of a system clock, persistent system information storage, electronic mail transfer code and file transfer code.

20 15. The method according to Claim 13, wherein each one of the plurality of monitoring components accesses the system resource using a system resource interface.

25 16. The method according to Claim 13, wherein the target application includes one of a software program being executed on a computer or workstation under control of a user, a software program driving a control panel of a business device, a software program driving a control panel of an appliance, software generating data regarding state changes within a device, and software generating data regarding state changes within an appliance.

30 17. The method according to Claim 13, wherein the information regarding execution of a target application includes at least one of a user identification, an application identification, a cumulative session number, a value of a starting time, a value of a duration

and an indication of a sequence of events with a corresponding elapsed time for each one of the events.

18. The method according to Claim 13, wherein the system resource includes a
5 persistent system registry used for storing at least one of an application identification, a value indicating a cumulative usage, an indication of a local directory, a user identification, an indication of a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) server, an indication of at least one recipient of data to be transmitted, an indication of a value of from data for data to be transmitted, an indication of a File Transfer Protocol (FTP) server, an indication of an FTP user, an indication of an FTP password, and an indication of an FTP target path.
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19. The method according to Claim 13, wherein the system resource includes a system clock, and wherein the event logger accesses the system clock at least for recording a time of starting a monitoring session.
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20. The method according to Claim 13, further comprising the step of transmitting, to a predetermined recipient, formatted data corresponding to the information regarding execution of the target application.

20 21. The method according to Claim 20, further comprising the step of processing the information regarding execution of the target application into the formatted data to be transmitted by the transmitting device.

22. The method according to Claim 21, wherein the step of processing the information includes formatting the information regarding execution of the target application according to a requested data format.
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23. The method according to Claim 20, wherein the step of transmitting includes transmitting, through a protocol processor, the formatted data through a requested communication protocol.
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24. The method according to Claim 23, wherein the system resource includes electronic mail transfer code and file transfer code, and wherein the protocol processor is configured to access at least one of the electronic mail transfer code and the file transfer code for transmitting the formatted data through the requested communication protocol.

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25. A program product for collecting information regarding execution of a target application in an application unit, the program product comprising a computer readable medium embodying program instructions for causing an object-oriented system to perform the steps of:

10 monitoring the target application, by a device having a plurality of monitoring components to obtain the information regarding execution of the target application, wherein the plurality of monitoring components includes an event logger, and wherein the step of monitoring includes the steps of accessing a shared system resource and executing a plurality of instructions included in the system resource; and

15 storing, in the event logger, a portion of the information obtained by the step of monitoring.

20 26. The program product according to Claim 25, wherein the system resource includes at least one of a system clock, persistent system information storage, electronic mail transfer code and file transfer code.

25 27. The program product according to Claim 25, wherein at least one of the plurality of monitoring components accesses the system resource using a system resource interface.

30 28. The program product according to Claim 25, wherein the target application includes one of a software program being executed on a computer or workstation under control of a user, a software program driving a control panel of a business device, a software program driving a control panel of an appliance, software generating data regarding state changes within a device, and software generating data regarding state changes within an appliance.

29. The program product according to Claim 25, wherein the information regarding execution of a target application includes at least one of a user identification, an application identification, a cumulative session number, a value of a starting time, a value of a duration and an indication of a sequence of events with a corresponding elapsed time for each one of
5 the events.

30. The program product according to Claim 25, wherein the system resource includes a persistent system registry used for storing at least one of an application identification, a value indicating a cumulative usage, an indication of a local directory, a user identification, an indication of a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) server, an indication of at least one recipient of data to be transmitted, an indication of a value of from data for data to be transmitted, an indication of a File Transfer Protocol (FTP) server, an indication of an FTP user, an indication of an FTP password, and an indication of an FTP target path.
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15 31. The program product according to Claim 25, wherein the system resource includes a system clock, and wherein the event logger accesses the system clock at least for recording a time of starting a monitoring session.

20 32. The program product according to Claim 25, wherein the program instructions cause the system to further perform the step of transmitting, to a predetermined recipient, formatted data corresponding to the information regarding execution of the target application.
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33. The program product according to Claim 32, wherein the program instructions cause the system to further perform the step of processing the information regarding execution of the target application into the formatted data to be transmitted by the transmitting device.
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34. The program product according to Claim 33, wherein the step of processing the information includes formatting the information regarding execution of the target application according to a requested data format.
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35. The program product according to Claim 32, wherein the step of transmitting includes transmitting, through a protocol processor, the formatted data through a requested communication protocol.

5 36. The program product according to Claim 35, wherein the system resource includes electronic mail transfer code and file transfer code, and wherein the protocol processor is configured to access at least one of the electronic mail transfer code and the file transfer code for transmitting the formatted data through the requested communication protocol.